

Confidential

29 Lincolns Gardens
August 7 1863.

My dear Sir,

As I know that you are very well acquainted with the English language, and as I find it more expedient to write in my own, I trust you will forgive my doing so, especially, as I am somewhat pressed for time.

I have had the pleasure of receiving your letter of yesterday, you are quite right in supposing that I am most anxious for the preservation of good relations between the Argentine Republic and England. My friends here accuse me of being somewhat too partial to the Government of the former, and I confess that I am generally much inclined to make allowances for the difficulties with which they have frequently to encounter.

With regard to the late matter of difference between the British Legation and the Argentine Government, I trust most sincerely that it may have no serious consequences, as soon as the news of the ^{it} arrived in England.

I said all that I could at the Foreign Office
to prevent any evil consequences. Instructions
have now been sent out to Mr Doris, and
I do not suppose that any other steps will be
taken in the matter for the present, nor
at least till answers come from Buenos
Aires, and I trust very sincerely that no
further instructions may be necessary.

But with all my good feeling
towards General Blicher and his Government,
I cannot allow that their steps in the
late affair, were extremely judicious. In the
first place it is always right to consider
the animus of any communication; now
I cannot think that a collective note, merely from
its form, implied any menace; still less can
I suppose that there was any intention on
Mr Doris's part to offer an offence to the
Argentine Government. It may possibly
have arisen in asking the repetition
of what had been solemnly declared in
the President's ^{reminiscent} message to Congress, but it
must be remembered that it was asked
to repeat from Government to Government
what had been a declaration to His Excel-
lency's citizens. But whether or not there
were error on the part of Mr Doris, I hardly
think that it deserved to be ^{miscon-} sidered
so serious a measure as is the return

of a note. If it were considered offensive, it might have been answered ^{politely} courteously and yet most severely by simply stating that "H. E. The President had always declared his neutrality in the Banda Oriental question."

more than I have now the honour of saying to you, I have already written confidentially to Genl. Mitre. I am very sorry that I have not been able to see you, for there are many details connected with this affair which are too long to commit to writing, and which yet have a decided bearing upon the case. You may however be assured that there is very desire here to preserve good relations with the Argentine Government, and I am convinced that your having been named to represent it, will greatly contribute to this end.

Lord Russell has now gone to Scotland where he will remain for about two months, for I understand that he is not the Minister who is to accompany the Queen to Germany. I myself shall not leave England for Buenos Aires till the 9th of October at the earliest but intend to go to Scotland in a few days whence I hope to return about the 10th of September. If I can then

Use of any use to you here, I shall be very happy.

Believe me

my dear Sir,

Very truly yours

Edward Thornton